

IMPROVEMENTS, 1928

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE
NATURAL HISTORIC SITE

Kentucky

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

Improvements, 1929

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

THE LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE

The Lincoln birthplace will be improved and made more accessible to the public. Secretary of War Davis has approved a study, made under his orders of the Lincoln farm and memorial, near Hodgenville, Ky., for the improvement of accommodations for visitors at this historic place where Abraham Lincoln was born.

The principal improvements found to be necessary were the erection of steel wire fencing; the renovation and preserving of the log house; the reconstruction in concrete of the approach road, which now is too narrow for two-way traffic, and the construction of walks around the memorial. The improvements also include the beautification of the farm by setting out native Kentucky trees, cleaning out the old family well and renovating the original water tank.

The farm and memorial comprise about 110 acres of land, divided into two nearly equal tracts by the Jackson Highway, which runs from Louisville to Nashville, paralleling the Dixie Highway. Until recently the main line of tourists to the south has been over the Dixie, but with the improvement of the Jackson Highway, an increasing percentage of traffic now follows that highway, resulting in a great increase in the number of visitors to the Lincoln farm.

Citizens of Illinois are especially interested in the Lincoln birthplace, and with the improvement of the roads leading to this historic spot the number of visitors from this state will greatly increase. The same is true of the citizens of Indiana who are erecting a memorial in the southern part of the state where Lincoln spent several years of his youth and where his mother died and is buried.

ANVILLE, ILL. COML NEWS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1924

PRESERVING PATRIOTIC SHRINES.

(Washington Post.)

The government is planning improvements for the preservation of the Lincoln Farm and Memorial near Hodgenville, Ky., and to better accommodate tourists who visit the historic place where Abraham Lincoln was born. Steps will be taken to preserve the memorable house, the highway leading to the farm will be improved and the land will be more adequately fenced and landscaped. The place is destined to become an accessible and beautiful shrine which will attract the attention of thousands of tourists each year.

For the most part the government is carefully preserving its historic landmarks. But there are some historically famous places that have been neglected. It was recently reported, for example, that the graves of some of Washington's unknown soldiers who perished at Valley Forge are being used for parking space. If the report is true some action should be taken to convert the burial ground into a fitting memorial.

A young nation with few potent traditions, the United States has often been dilatory in preserving sites of great historic interest. Many such places are now in the hands of private individuals, who reap a large profit from a patriotic public. The ideals of the American people are intimately associated with many historic sites and relics and they should be public possessions wherever possible. Commercialization of places that should be national memorials is not only unfair to the American people, but it tends to dissipate any patriotic sentiments associated with them.

The government should be commended for preserving the birthplace of Lincoln. It is to be hoped that attention will be given to other historic spoils to save them from decay as well as exploitation by private profiteers.

Pawtucket R. I. Times

SUGGESTS UNCLE SAM IMPROVE LINCOLN SHRINE IN KENTUCKY

Congressman Moorman Determined To Do What He Can To
See Lincoln's Memory Perpetuated In State

Henry DeHaven Moorman, Congressman from the Fourth District, on January 17, made a speech in the House of Representatives relative to the Government improving the Lincoln shrine at Hodgenville. Mr. Moorman stated in his speech that when he went to Congress he was determined to make every possible effort to get the Government to make the Lincoln shrine everything it should be, and if he failed this time he would try again. He charged that this was Government property, but that it had not been improved as it should. Mr. Moorman is in favor of calling it "Abraham Lincoln National Park," which is the name the proposed law gives it, and would thus help to advertise it to the world as a national shrine.

Plans For Improvement

Relative to plans for improving the Lincoln farm, Congressman Moorman said in his speech:

"On June 24, 1927, the Chamber of Commerce of Hodgenville passed a resolution reciting the deplorable conditions existing at the Lincoln homestead and enumerating the repairs and improvements necessary to accommodate the ever-increasing number of visitors to this most interesting United States reservation. Recently, in one party alone, 17 large busses, carrying an average of 40 passengers each, visited the place. With the different Federal highways now completed, and considering the wonderful motor trips featured by the bus lines connecting Camp Knox, Elizabethtown, Mammoth Cave, Lincoln Park, Bardstown and Old Kentucky Home, the demand for accommodations at the memorial have increased a hundredfold in recent years. I recently visited the place, and realize what it is, and also what every patriotic American citizen would have it, and that a reasonable appropriation, applied as recommended, will work a miraculous change. Conservatively stated, it is not what a proud people would have a Government-owned and nationally maintained memorial. The War Department report recites urgent need of repairs and lack of

drainage, adequate roads, fences, toilets and other water arrangements, and many other ordinary conveniences. The best has been done that could be, however, by the War Department with only the \$2,000 income from the endowment to spend. From the first time I visited Lincoln's birthplace I felt that his country had neglected it. When I came to Congress I was determined to make every possible effort to induce the United States to make the Kentucky Lincoln shrine what it should be. If we fail this time, I fully expect to try to come back in two years and will continue my sincere efforts."

Kentucky Past and Present

"When I speak of Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis and reflect on the foregoing forceful expressions of many great Congressmen linking their names I am reminded of one description of the place of their birth, as follows:

"Old Kentucky: Not the oldest nor yet the youngest; not the richest nor yet the poorest; not the largest nor yet the least; but take it all in all, for men and women, for flocks and herds, for fields and skies, for happy homes and loving hearts, the best place outside of Heaven the good Lord ever made."

Lincoln's Statement

To my mind, forgetting the thousands of other wise and noble things said and done by Abraham Lincoln, the following single statement of his proves his worthiness of all that has been said and done by the whole world to honor his memory, viz:

"I want the people of the South to come back to the old home, to sit down at the old fireside, to sleep under the old roof, and to labor and rest worship under the same flag. For years I have seen the flag of our nation riddled with bullets and torn with shell and trailed in the dust before eyes of all the nations, and now I hoping that it will please God to me live until I shall see that same flag unsullied and untorn waving over the greatest and most powerful Nation the earth--over a nation of freemen over no master and over no slave."

LINCOLN FARM BILL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

The Senate Military Affairs Committee has reported favorably the bill of Representative Thatcher, authorizing an appropriation of \$100,000 for the improvement of the Lincoln Memorial Farm at Hodgenville, where the Lincoln birthday cabin is located.

Representative Henry D. Moorman of the Fourth District, in which the Lincoln Farm is located, has been cooperating with Mr. Thatcher in the effort for the enactment of this bill.

The appropriation which it authorizes would be used for a number of improvements, including construction of a dam to protect the court in front of the memorial building from overflow and thick deposits of mud, construction of a commodious restroom, better water facilities, drainage and change in boundary markers.

Senator Frederick M. Sackett appeared before the Senate committee and succeeded in obtaining an immediate favorable report on the bill.

LEBANON, KY., ENTERPRISE.
JAN. 9, 1928

LINCOLN FARM FUND IS VOTED

House Approves \$100,000
For Improvements Of
Memorial

The lower House of Congress passed the Thatcher Bill Monday, which appropriates the sum of \$100,000 for improvements at the Lincoln Memorial Farm near Hodgenville.

Representative Crampton of Michigan offered objection to the measure as unnecessary and thought it should have been included in one of the regular appropriation bills, but the House thought otherwise and voted the appropriation almost unanimously.

Congressman Moorman spoke in support of the bill.

BARDETOWN KY. STANDARD (adv)
JAN. 7, 1928

LOVERFORD (KY) Breckenridge News
JAN. 22, 1928

MOORMAN AIDS THATCHER.

HENRY DEHAVEN MOORMAN's speech yesterday, which aided in passing Representative THATCHER's bill to improve Lincoln farm, was not his first word in advocacy of that meritorious measure.

Mr. MOORMAN has done excellent service, in an excellent cause, and it is pleasing, although not surprising, to see "one of that almost extinct species, a Kentucky Democratic representative" as Mr. MOORMAN styles himself, working shoulder to shoulder with Mr. THATCHER for such a bill.

The measure won all but unanimous support outside of Kentucky upon the sentiment which it created. Democrats and Republicans were glad of opportunity to vote for a bill which dealt constructively with a memorial to ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

To Kentucky it means what it did to members of the House from other States, meaning in addition improvement, and improved accessibility, of an attraction for out-of-State visitors, and Kentuckians, in the section in which it is situated.

THE TIMES congratulates Mr. THATCHER upon getting his bill through with the support it had from all States, and upon having done a service for his own State. Senator SACKETT, by the way, offered a similar bill at the other end of the Capitol.

LOUISVILLE KY. TIMES
FEB. 4, 1929 F14

THE LINCOLN SHRINE.

It is of interest to note on this anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln that the government is planning improvements for the preservation of the Lincoln farm and memorial near Hodgenville, Ky., the better to accommodate visitors to the spot where the Emancipator was born.

The highway leading to the memorial farm is to be improved, the land will be more adequately fenced and landscaped, and the spot is destined to become an accessible and beautiful shrine which will attract thousands of patriotic and reverent tourists each year.

A young nation with few powerful traditions, the United States sometimes has been dilatory in preserving sites of great historic interest. A number of such places are now in the hands of private individuals, who exploit these possessions and reap a large profit from a patriotic public.

But for the most part, the government is carefully preserving its historic landmarks and making them public possessions. This is as it should be, for the ideals of the American people are intimately associated with such places and relics. Commercialization of these memorable spots is not only unfair to patriots, but it tends to dissipate the lofty sentiments associated with them.

The government should be commended for preserving the birthplace of Lincoln, as well as for the creation of the stately memorial in Washington, which is regarded as one of the most beautiful and most artistic spots in the nation. It is to be hoped that attention will be given to other historic spots, that they may be preserved from decay and exploitation by private interests.

ST. JOSEPH MO. GAZETTE
FEB. 13, 1929 F15

HOUSE VOTES \$100,000 TO IMPROVE LINCOLN FARM

The U. S. House on Monday voted an appropriation of \$100,000 to improve the Lincoln memorial farm at Hodgenville.

Representative Moorman, Democrat, spoke earnestly for the appropriation.

"I come here," he said, "as one of that species that is now about extinct down in Kentucky, a Democratic Representative. And I implore you, regardless of politics and regardless of the side of the House on which you sit, to give this bill your support and help honor the name of the man my district loves."

Not more than a dozen members opposed the bill when a division was called. A similar measure, offered by Mr. Sackett, is pending in the Senate.

CYNTHIANA KY. LOGGERS (wk)
FEB. 7, 1929

Reflecting Pool May Be Constructed for Lincoln Birthplace

Lagoon Planned As One of Features of Improved National Park Near Hodgenville; New Roadway to Be Built and Considerable Area Replanted With Native Trees.

(Automobile Bulletin.)

Imagine turning off the Jackson Highway through a gateway of dignity which proclaims to the world that this is Lincoln Farm, the birthplace of the Great Emancipator, driving down a beautiful stretch of well-paved road, making a turn and suddenly having burst full upon your view the magnificent Lincoln Memorial and steps leading thereto and mirrored perfectly in a reflecting pool below, an exact replica of the beautiful building of Stony Creek Connecticut granite. Wouldn't that be worth driving miles to see?

This is one of the plans for rehabilitating Lincoln Farm which has been drawn up by Capt. Francis I. Maslin, Q. M. C., attached to the engineering branch of the U. S. Quartermaster's Depot at Jeffersonville. It was on the basis of the plan drawn up by Captain Maslin that Congress enacted the special \$100,000 appropriation bill, introduced by Representative Thatcher, and it was as a result of friends making known the extreme need for work at the Farm that President Coolidge, before he went out of office, asked that \$80,000 of this money be made immediately available to the War Department.

The old road which approaches the Lincoln Memorial from Jackson Highway is in terrible condition. It probably will not be rebuilt for its entire length because it is a one-way road. A new entrance may be constructed and a road lead directly to a lagoon which it is planned to construct in the place where the plaza and flagpole now are situated. This is the plot which is flooded every year and muddy much of the time. It is planned to have this lagoon, or small lake, take care of the overflow and drainage. The plan of a lagoon, or reflecting pool, is similar to that at the famous Lincoln Memorial in Washington.

There are several plans for an approach road, one of which involves accepting a strip of ground from adjoining property owners. This scheme, however, is not favored and more likely another location for the road will be chosen. It is planned, however, if possible, to drive toward the Memorial from a point directly in front of it, in order to gain the full effect of the reflecting pool.

Parking space is to be provided in the vicinity of the lagoon, probably. The road, it is planned, would wind around in the rear of the memorial building, where rest rooms are to be erected, and back again and out by the old two-story log house two hundred yards from the present entrance. This log house is to be rehabilitated and preserved. The original main

part of this structure, built of hand-hewn square poplar, is ninety-five years old. Additions are more than half a century old.

Dogwood, redbud and maples are to be planted along the new roadway in three irregular rows. Other parts of the Farm, which have become eroded through farming, are to be replanted in these trees and in a dozen other varieties from the Farm itself, the Camp Knox National Forest and the Kentucky Forest Service nurseries. With a hotel on the adjoining property, there will be more visitors.

Water is to be pumped from a well to supply the rest rooms with running water. It will be a happy day for tourists when these conveniences finally are installed. Another improvement contemplated is the construction of safe steps all the way down to the old spring under the cliff, where Abraham Lincoln drank water when he was a tiny boy.

LOUISVILLE, KY., COURIER-JOURNAL
MARCH 31, 1929

PRESERVING SHRINES

The government is planning improvements for the preservation of the Lincoln Farm and Memorial near Hodgenville, Ky., and to better accommodate tourists who visit the historic place where Abraham Lincoln was born. Steps will be taken to preserve the memorable house, the highway leading to the farm will be improved and the land will be more adequately fenced and landscaped. The place is destined to become an accessible and beautiful shrine which will attract the attention of thousands of tourists each year.

For the most part the government is carefully preserving its historic landmarks. But there are some historically famous places that have been neglected. It was recently reported, for example, that the graves of some of Washington's unknown soldiers who perished at Valley Forge are being used for parking space. If the report is true some action should be taken to convert the burial ground into a fitting memorial.

A young nation with few potent traditions, the United States has often been dilatory in preserving sites of great historic interest. Many such places are now in the hands of private individuals, who reap a large profit from a patriotic public. The ideals of the American people are intimately associated with many historic sites and relics and they should be public possessions wherever possible. Commercialization of places that should be national memorials is not only unfair to the American people, but it tends to dissipate any patriotic sentiment associated with them.

KACHT COPIES, INC., ENTERPRISE
FEB. 14 1929

THE LINCOLN SHRINE

The Lincoln Farm, which is a national monument under the control and care of the government, has been much neglected in recent years while at the same time becoming increasingly a national shrine, to which multitudes of pilgrims journey year by year.

For several years efforts have been made to secure from Congress a suitable appropriation for the purpose of improving the tract of land, containing about 200 acres. Within the past few days success has been achieved through the Sackett-Thatcher bill, and the sum of \$100,000 has been set apart for this purpose.

Fences will be built, driveways surfaced and extended, parking places provided for the ever-increasing number of motorists who are thronging the park, trees and shrubs will be planted, drainage work done, and a scheme of landscaping carried out. Every convenience and accommodation which the public needs will be supplied.

Already the highways leading to the Lincoln Farm have been surfaced and are being kept in good condition. Travel over them is steadily increasing. Tens of thousands of Americans are destined to visit the Lincoln cabin, housed now in its beautiful memorial building on the exact spot upon which it stood when the child was born who was destined to become one of the great figures of history.

The logs are those hewn out by the blade of Thomas Lincoln. Within those walls the child Lincoln spent his early years, taught by his mother those precepts which formed the foundation of his granite character. Nearby is the old spring and on the knoll above it is the grave of his sister, dying in babyhood, over which he saw his mother bending and weeping as she prepared to go on the long journey into Indiana.

He played around that spring, drew water from it, lived and breathed within the cabin walls, and somehow those who visit it feel as they stand there that his spirit is near and that a living presence hallows the spot. Those who have worked long and patiently to secure the appropriation which will now become available, deserve the thanks of Kentucky and of the nation. The Lincoln Farm should have every possible care and be guarded as one of the nation's most sacred spots. Uncounted millions from over the face of the globe will come to it as the years pass, and will go away impressed, subdued, and inspired by the reflections it induces.

LEXINGTON, KY., LEADER

FEB. 13, 1923

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GOT THE APPROPRIATION

It was due to the efforts of two good Masonic brothers that the appropriation of \$100,000 was secured to provide for the improvement and preservation of the land and buildings of the Abraham Lincoln National Park near Hodgenville, LaRue County, Kentucky. Congressman Maurice H. Thatcher of Falls City Lodge No. 376, Louisville, and Congressman Henry D. Moorman of Breckinridge Lodge No. 67, Hardinsburg. These brothers, assisted by Col. W. R. Gibson, Q. M. C., United States Army made gallant and successful efforts to secure the appropriation with which to rehabilitate Kentucky's most sacred shrine, the Lincoln National Park. The Measure was introduced by Brother Thatcher and ably supported by Brother Moorman, for which they deserve the thanks of all Kentuckians.

LEXINGTON, KY.
MARCH 1, 1923

Bill In Congress To Honor Gen. Clark

Memorial Lighthouse at Louisville on Ohio River Urged By Representative Thatcher

The recent activities of Representative Maurice H. Thatcher, of Louisville, representing the Fifth Kentucky district, includes the reintroduction of a bill providing for the erection of the George Rogers Clark Memorial Lighthouse at the head of the falls in the Ohio river, at Louisville, commemorating the memory of General Clark, the founder of the city of Louisville and the conquerer of the great northwest territory from the British during the Revolutionary war. If and when constructed this lighthouse will not only be of untold benefit to navigation, but will, in a small way, pay a debt of gratitude long since due General Clark.

Congressman Thatcher, accompanied by Mrs Thatcher, was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the National Organization of U. S. Storekeepers-Gaugers, held in Baltimore, Md, on the evening of April 20. This dinner was given as a victory celebration because of the enactment of H. R. 16393, introduced and pressed to passage by Mr Thatcher, which placed this small army of government employes on a full-time employment basis and gave them benefit of annual and sick

leave, which on their old basis of employment (per diem) they had not been accorded.

At the session of congress which ended March 4 Mr Thatcher secured the enactment of a bill authorizing an appropriation of \$100,000 for the improvement and maintenance of the Abraham Lincoln National Park in LeRue County, Ky, where the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born is located. Of the \$100,000 authorized, \$80,000 has been appropriated for the purpose of making the needed improvements, such as building railways, planting trees, seeding the land to grass, building parking places, and for the erection of comfort houses and rest rooms for the benefit of the general public. In recent conferences with war department officials, Mr Thatcher was informed that an officer had been detailed to proceed to the Lincoln farm and to remain there until the necessary improvements are completed. With the completion of the indicated improvements the long neglected birthplace of Abraham Lincoln will become a shrine of which the nation may well feel proud.

Also, during the closing days of

the last congress Mr Thatcher sponsored a bill, the passage of which authorized the secretary of war to lend sufficient cots and bedding to the American Legion for guests of its 11th annual convention, which will be held in Louisville during the coming fall.

In addition, he has also secured final action on a number of pension claims, ranging from increases of \$10 a month to the settlement of long pending claims amounting to as much as \$4,000.

HISTORIC LINCOLN CABIN.

June Engle 9-20-29

Pathfinder.

The last Congress appropriated \$100,000 to be spent in the improvement, beautification and preservation of the Lincoln homestead in Larue county, near Hodgenville, Ky. This appropriation was largely the result of the efforts of Representative Henry D. Moorman, in whose district Lincoln's birthplace is situated.

"When it is a question of honoring Abraham Lincoln there are no political parties in Kentucky," says Moorman, who is a Democrat. He looks forward to the time when there will be a beautiful highway running directly from Lincoln's birthplace to the birthplace of Jefferson Davis in the same state—a symbol of the complete reunion of the North and the South.

Nothing on the Lincoln homestead compares in sentimental value to the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born. It seems that at some unknown date in the early sixties, shortly after Lincoln's election, this cabin was bought from the owner by George Rodman and moved from its original site to another farm about a mile and a half from the Lincoln estate. After being used a number of years as a shelter for negro families and as a tenant house, it was used as a school in 1872 and 1873. John Davenport married the school-teacher and they lived in the cabin from 1875 until 1894, when it was bought by A. W. Bennett and moved back to its original site on the Lincoln farm. This was only the beginning of its travels.

The cabin had not been on its own

foundations long when it was taken down and the 143 logs were shipped to the Nashville Centennial in the same year. It was moved to Central Park, New York, and again exhibited at the Buffalo exposition in 1901, after which it was purchased by David Greer and stored in the old Poffenhausem mansion on Long Island. In 1906 the Lincoln Farm Association bought the cabin and shipped it to Louisville, where it was one of the features of the Louisville Home Coming Celebration. The Lincoln Farm Association, by popular subscription, not only raised an endowment of \$50,000 to maintain the homestead, but provided an impressive marble memorial building on the spot where Lincoln was born and in which the original cabin is now preserved. This memorial building cost nearly \$225,000.

In 1916 title to the farm was transferred to the government, which, in accepting the property and the administration of the endowment, agreed to maintain the farm, preserve the cabin, and never charge an entrance fee to the public. Thus the farm became a national park. The recent bill changes the name of the Abraham Lincoln National Park or Reservation. A complete survey of the estate of about 110½ acres has been made and the \$100,000 appropriated by Congress will be used to build roads, drain the land, restore the buildings, build fences, and provide conveniences for the ever-increasing number of visitors who make pilgrimages from all over the world to look upon the humble cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born.

9-27-29

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Pathfinder.

*Permanently in Eagle
Sept 20 - 1929*

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(Concluded next week.)

Abraham Lincoln Cabin

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NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 18, 1929

LANDSCAPING LINCOLN'S FARM

Many newspapers throughout Indiana are publishing reports that there have been planted around Nancy Hanks Lincoln's grave 9,000 young native trees and shrubs. They are of the kind that originally grew on that sixteen acre tract. There always has been about the grave a substantial native forest, part of which was there when Abraham Lincoln was a boy at his mother's burial. The question naturally arises as to the kind of trees and shrubs that originally grew on the Lincoln farm. This question was referred to George R. Wilson, of Jasper. He gave the names of scores of trees and shrubs that grew there, the topography of the ground, width of the early streams, ponds, swamps, etc. Not only the kind but the diameters and exact locations of many of the original forest trees were given. The information was obtained by him from the original government surveyor's reports made on December 25 and 26, 1805, which only experienced surveyors can read. The survey immediately around Lincoln City was made between sunrise on Christmas Day, December, 1805, and sunset on December 26, 1805. In several cases forest trees were found exactly on the lines of the Lincoln farm. The kind, diameter and exact location of these trees were recorded.

Among the trees and shrubbery that grew in the environs of Lincoln City in 1805, and mentioned in Mr. Wilson's report were the following: Beech—red, white, water and swamp; cherry—wild and black; crabapple—wild; dogwood—flowering; elm—red, hickory, slippery, yellow; gum—sweet, sour, tupelo or black, red and sweet-black; hickory—swamp, shell-bark, white-heart, white, small-fruited, black, king-nut and pig-nut; (the Indians called these trees "pohickory"); ironwood; locusts—honey, black and old-field; maple—black-sugar, hard, rock, sugar-tree, soft, red and swamp; oak—burr, jack, black, white, gray, yellow, scarlet, shingle, blackjack, swamp-white, Spanish, pin, willow and liveoak (a few); poplar—yellow (or tulip, the state flower), white and blue; paw-paw (grew on shady or "gladly land"); red bud or Judas tree; sassafras—red and white; sycamore—red, white (buttonwood or plane), spice-

weed; walnut—black and white (butternut), etc.

There also grew in Southern Indiana such trees as the aspen tree—large toothed, at the head waters of Anderson; buckeye—sweet, a native of the Ohio valley; basswood (white lin); birch—red, white, water, sweet and canoe; balsam tree; balm of Gilead (Paradise tree, tree of heaven, etc., usually planted in old graveyards); cucumber tree—yellow lin; cedar—red and white; cottonwood—yellow and white; coffee-nut, also Kentucky coffee tree; chestnut—rock or oak (at headwaters of Anderson); cypress; catalpa—hardy; haw tree—black, yellow and red (many north-west of Dale); hackberry; hop horn-beam; linden; mulberry—red; pecan—yellow and white; persimmon (Virginia); plum—wild, red; service berry; thorn tree—red fruited, glanular and cockspur; willow—yellow, white and black. The black willow grows on low land in America from coast to coast; the aspen grows on high points from coast to coast. These two tree are the only ones "nation wide."

Mr. Wilson's report also shows the following vines, shrubs or bushes grew in Southern Indiana: briars, black currants, blackberry, elderberry, fox grapes, fruit grapes, gooseberry, hazel bushes, honey suckles, Indian arrows, kinikinick, leather-wood, prickly yash, poison ivy, mountain laurel (about Birdseye), raspberry, sumach, summer grapes, wahoo, wild rose, wild cucumber, wild strawberry, Virginia creeper (trumpet flower), and others.

A few years ago Mr. Wilson compiled a pioneer map, forty-two inches square, with Lincoln City for the center and extending six miles in all four directions. This map shows the original owner of every forty-acre tract and the date when individual ownership began. The map begins at the southern boundary of Dubois county and runs south so as to cover twelve miles. It brings to light, from government sources, Mr. Lincoln's neighbors, which were few indeed, when he lived at Lincoln City. The data furnished is from original official sources and cannot be ignored or set aside. It shows but little land about Lincoln City had individual owners when the Lincolns lived there. Most of the land was entered after Abraham Lincoln went to Illinois.

The report and map are in manuscript form and have not been published.—Huntingburg Independent of January 24, 1930.

The MONITOR, Grandview, Indiana, January 30, 1930.

LANDSCAPING LINCOLN'S FARM

Many newspapers throughout Indiana are publishing reports that there have been planted around Nancy Hanks Lincoln's grave 9,000 young native trees and shrubs. They are of the kind that originally grew on that sixteen acre tract. There always has been about the grave a substantial native forest, part of which was there when Abraham Lincoln was a boy at his mother's burial. The question naturally arises as to the kind of trees and shrubs that originally grew on the Lincoln farm. This question was referred to George R. Wilson, of Jasper. He gave the names of scores of trees and shrubs that grew there, the topography of the ground, width of the early streams, ponds, swamps, etc. Not only the kind but the diameters and exact locations of many of the original forest trees were given. The information was obtained by him from the original government surveyor's reports made on December 25 and 26, 1805, which only experienced surveyors can read. The survey immediately around Lincoln City was made between sunrise on Christmas Day, December, 1805, and sunset on December 26, 1805. In several cases forest trees were found exactly on the lines of the Lincoln farm. The kind, diameter and exact location of these trees were recorded.

Among the trees and shrubbery that grew in the environs of Lincoln City in 1805, and mentioned in Mr. Wilson's report were the following: Beech—red, white, water and swamp; cherry—wild and black; crabapple—wild; dogwood—flowering; elm—red, lickory, slippery, yellow; gum—sweet, sour, tupelo or black, read and sweet-black; hickory—swamp, shell-bark, white-heart, white, small-fruited, black, king-nut and pig-nut; (the Indians called these trees "pohickory"); ironwood; locusts—honey, black and old-field; maple—black-sugar, hard, rock, sugar-tree, soft, red and swamp; oak—burr, jack, black, white, gray, yellow, scarlet, shingle, blackjack, swamp—white, Spanish, pin, willow and liveoak (a few); poplar—yellow (or tulip, the state flower), white and blue; paw-paw (grew on shady or "gladly land"); red bud or Judas tree; sassafras—red and white; sycamore—red, white (buttonwood or plane), spice-wood; walnut—black and white (butternut), etc.

There also grew in Southern Indiana such trees as the aspen tree—large toothed, at the head waters of Anderson; buckeye—sweet, a native of the Ohio valley; basswood (white lin); birch—red, white, water, sweet and canoe; balsam tree; balm of Gilead (Paradise tree, tree of heaven, etc., usually planted in old graveyards); cucumber tree—yellow lin; cedar—red and white; cottonwood—yellow and white; coffee-nut, also Kentucky coffee tree; chestnut—rock or oak (at headwaters of Anderson); cypress; catalpa—hardy; haw tree—black, yellow and red (many northwest of Dale); hackberry; hop hornbeam; linden; mulberry—red; pecan—yellow and white; persimmon (Virginia); plum—wild, red; service berry; thorn tree—red fruited, glanular and cockspur; willow—yellow, white and black. The black willow grows on low land in America from coast to coast; the aspen grows on high points from coast to coast. These two tree sars the only ones "nation wide."

Mr. Wilson's report also shows the following vines, shrubs or bushes grew in Southern Indiana: briars, black currants, blackberry, elderberry, fox grapes, fruit grapes, gooseberry, hazel bushes, honey suckles, Indian arrows, kinikinnick, leather-wood, pickle yash, poison ivy, mountain laurel (about Birdseye), raspberry, ramach, summer grapes, wahoo, wild rose, wild cucumber, wild strawberry, Virginia creeper (trumpet flower), and others.

A few years ago Mr. Wilson compiled a pioneer map, forty-two inches square, with Lincoln City for the center and extending six miles in all four directions. This map shows the original owner of every forty-acre tract and the date when individual ownership began. The map begins at the southern boundary of Dubois county and runs south so as to cover twelve miles. It brings to light, from government sources, Mr. Lincoln's neighbors, which were few indeed, when he lived at Lincoln City. The data furnished is from original official sources and cannot be ignored or set aside. It shows but little land about Lincoln City had individual owners when the Lincolns lived there. Most of the land was entered after Abraham Lincoln went to Illinois.

The report and map are in manuscript form and have not been published.—Huntingburg Independent of January 24, 1930.

Abraham Lincoln's Birthplace

Anna East 2-28-20

When the memory of Abraham Lincoln is concerned there is only one opinion in Kentucky. There are no parties on that subject.

This statement was made by former Representative Henry D. Moorman, resident of the Congressional district in which Abraham Lincoln was born. Moorman, who is a Democrat is particularly interested in the Lincoln Memorial Farm in Larue county about two and a half miles from Hodgenville. Here stands the beautiful memorial building in which is enshrined the most hallowed log cabin in the United States.

It was about 20 years ago that a group of patriotic citizens of Kentucky and other states formed the Lincoln Farm and Memorial Association with a view of acquiring the 137-acre farm in Larue county and the log cabin in which Lincoln was born. The land was purchased and cleared of brush, and the magnificent marble memorial hall was erected over the cabin, which stands near a spring where it stood in the winter of 1809 when it sheltered the most precious child of modern times,

In 1916, its work of preservation being accomplished, the Lincoln Farm and Memorial Association presented the Lincoln homestead, together with \$50,000 endowment fund, to the American Government, on condition that the land, buildings and especially the log cabin and the Memorial Building inclosing it, be protected and preserved from spoliation, destruction and further disintegration. It was further stipulated that the farm should forever be maintained as a national park dedicated to the memory of Abraham Lincoln and that no fee should ever be charged for the admission of the public to the premises.

The American government, says Mr. Moorman, should more than comply with the deed of gift and maintain this shrine in a style in keeping with the national services of the great man in whose memory it is preserved. It is hoped that some day a memorial federal highway will be constructed between the Lincoln farm and the birthplace of Jefferson Davis in the same state, which will symbolize the complete physical and spiritual union of the North and the South.

LINCOLN FARM to be improved

CAMPBELLVILLE KY. STAR
FEB. 26, 1931

M3

Had been here
To Improve Lincoln Farm
Captain W. L. Bartley and Major
W. A. Swallow were here yesterday for an inspection of Lincoln

Farm. Both expressed their satisfaction with the progress made at the Memorial so far and they stated that further work would be started there within a short time. An additional appropriation of \$20,000 has been made by Congress for the Memorial and this money will be used in landscaping and improving the appearance of the grounds.—Hodgenville Herald.

The Abraham Lincoln National Park

By **FREDERIC M. SACKETT**

United States Senator from Kentucky

ABRAM LINCOLN, the martyr President, was born in a log cabin typical of the pioneer era on a farm in Larue County, Kentucky, three miles from Hodgenville, the county seat. This same old cabin has been taken down and rebuilt and returned to its original resting place, and it is remarkable that with all its vicissitudes it is still preserved intact. On the same farm, enclosed in a beautiful granite temple, insuring its protection from the elements, vandals and relic hunters, it stands today as a national shrine commemorative of the great President.

To the imagination of the late Robert J. Collier, of New York, the preservation of this early American pioneer home owes its inception. By means of an association of patriotic men and women whose names and gifts are preserved in the classical walls, an association was formed and the farm lands bought and the buildings erected. When Mr. Collier died, leaving a small fund as endowment

for the upkeep of the improvements, the whole project was transferred by the Lincoln Farm Association to the United States of America and is today one of the National Parks under the control of the War Department.

In the laying of the cornerstone of the new building in 1909 by President Theodore Roosevelt, in the dedicatory service in November, 1911, by President William Howard Taft, and in the formal acceptance of the farm as a National Park by President Woodrow Wilson in September, 1916, we have linked with the immortal Lincoln three of the great Presidents of the United States.

Hodgenville, a pretty little country town in the Blue Grass State, nestles along both sides of the Jackson Highway, one of the great routes running from the Lakes to the Gulf, surfaced at last throughout its entire length as a model motorway. There pass over its right-of-way hun-

dreds of tourist automobiles, and the Lincoln shrine is one of the attractions to those Americans who hold tradition dear as it attaches itself to the name of Lincoln.

This brings a new life to the memorial. In earlier years but few people were able to visit the shrine but of late there has come a procession of motor cars running to hundreds daily to view the cabin in which Lincoln was born. With little tourist interest, improvements were not made that could accommodate the sightseers of this later period. No

appropriations had been made by the Congress to make this National Park available for tourist travel. Never was the drainage taken care of; never the farm cleaned of its briars and sassafras bushes; never had a road been built or parking space provided for those who linger for an hour beside the famous spring from which the boy who was to gain the affection of the nation drew the water as one of the daily chores of the little home.

And so we have suggested

that it is the part of wisdom of this great rich country to preserve this shrine and make it attractive to those who through a visit can feel the impulse and the story of his life, can see his small beginnings and realize that his story means that America gives to every youth equal opportunity in life.

It is that principle which underlies the democracy of this Republic. The introduction of a bill in the Senate by myself, and in the House of Representatives by Representative Maurice H. Thatcher, of Kentucky, calling for an appropriation for improvements and preservation of the park, was designed to carry out the thought that the nation should put this home in order, furnishing the necessary funds to make it available to the people of the United States. The bill has met with the cordial approval of President Coolidge, who fully appreciates the value of our national shrines.



Memorial Building at Hodgenville, Kentucky, enclosing the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born

Funds Allocated For Improvement At Lincoln Park

Special to The Courier-Journal

Hodgenville, Ky., Feb. 8.—A total of \$269,050 has been allocated by the Department of Interior for improving and developing nearby Abraham Lincoln National Historical Park.

Of the total, \$64,400 will be spent for roads and trails within the park area. Also \$165,850 will go for new buildings and utilities. Included in the buildings will be a visitors' center, small museum, and administrative offices for park personnel.

Another \$38,800 is included in the appropriation for miscellaneous items, such as an increase in the personnel and maintenance staff.

E. L. Wright, Jr., park superintendent, said it was hoped the visitors' center could be completed before February, 1959.

Bills Introduced to Change the Name of Lincoln Park

Washington, March 26 — Bills have been introduced again to change the name of the Abraham Lincoln National Historical Park near Hodgenville, to the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace.

Senators Thruston B. Morton and John Sherman Cooper (R-Ky.) and Republican Rep. Eugene Siler, of Kentucky, introduced the measures

Cooper said the name should be changed to distinguish the birthplace from the numerous Lincoln parks and shrines throughout the nation.

Last year similar bills failed.

Many Improvements for Lincoln Park

Improvement which will make the visitor's stop more memorable and pleasant is the keynote at Abraham Lincoln National Historical Park, Hodgenville, Ky.

Ernest L. Wright, superintendent, said a new stretch of highway leading to the park, a new entrance, an enlarged parking lot and a visitor's center including a Lincoln life museum will be completed early in 1959.

The park's main attraction is the traditional Lincoln birth cabin which is housed in a pink granite building. During the summer months, a steady stream of visi-

tors comes to this spot where the Great Emancipator was born in 1809.

Last year, persons from 58 nations visited the park, Wright said among the visitors was Madam Pandit who was permitted to enter the cabin and stand before the fire place. "She stood there several minutes in deep thought, visibly astonished at the humble beginning of a President of the United States," Wright said.

Other attractions in the national park are the Sinking Spring

Spring and the Boundary Oak. The large white oak marked the boundary of the Thomas Lincoln farm and is the only living witness of the birth of his world-renowned son.

The cornerstone of the Memorial Building was laid Feb. 12, 1909, the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. The building was dedicated Nov. 9, 1911. The area surrounding the building, 116½ acres of land, was made a national park in 1915 and was designated Abraham Lincoln National Historical Park in 1939.

IMPROVEMENTS 1929

DRAWER 11

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
NATURAL HISTORIC SITE

